

I had, on several occasions, during the early part of the winter, noted apparently fresh borings on a Larch tree (*Larix europæa*) on our place, and had heretofore been unable to account for them. I know of no other instance of this bird's wintering in Massachusetts except that Mr. William Brewster writes me he killed one in January some years ago.—F. H. KENNARD, *Brookline, Mass.*

Breeding of Traill's Flycatcher in Eastern Massachusetts.—On June 18, 1895, I took a set of four eggs of Traill's Flycatcher in Lynnfield, a small town twelve miles north of Boston. On various occasions earlier in the month I had seen Traill's Flycatchers in a bushy meadow and the actions of individual birds led me to believe that one and perhaps two pairs of this species were intending to breed.

On June 16 I searched for a nest and soon found one with three eggs. The following morning there were four eggs. On neither occasion was a bird seen at the nest but on the morning of the 17th one of the Traill's Flycatchers flew about in the neighboring bushes and complained. On the afternoon of June 18 I went to the nest in company with Messrs. E. H. Forbush and C. E. Bailey. As on previous occasions, the bird was not on the nest. Mr. Bailey ensconced himself in the bushes and after an hour's wait shot one of the Flycatchers. The bird came near the nest and drove away a Maryland Yellow-throat, and then after an interval appeared again and lit on the nest and looked at the eggs. A moment later Mr. Bailey shot her. This bird is now in the collection of Mr. Wm. Brewster.

The nest is a typical Traill's, being constructed of fine grasses and neatly lined. The body of the nest is a quite compact and well-made structure but there is a lot of loose odds and ends in the shape of long, grasses stringing down from the outside of the nest.

The eggs, four in number, and very slightly incubated, are white with reddish spots (nearly flesh-colored), these being principally at the larger end and forming a slight ring. The nest was three and a half feet from the ground and in a small wild rose-bush. The locality is a bushy meadow, the growth being principally alder, young maple, white cedar and wild rose-bushes.—J. A. FARLEY, *Newton, Mass.*

The Western Meadowlark at Racine, Wisc., etc.—In the April number of 'The Auk' (Vol. XII, p. 192) I find a communication from an observer in northern Michigan, if I remember rightly, recording the appearance there of the Western Meadowlark—*Sturnella magna neglecta* (Aud.).

It was with much interest that I heard this bird was at Racine, Wisc., where its note sounded strange enough, although I had long been familiar with it in California. Dr. Hoy, so well known in the Northwest, some years ago reported "this variety as occurring occasionally, near Racine."

In this connection I should like to make mention of one of our eastern Meadowlarks (*Sturnella magna*) which I saw last spring in Connecticut,